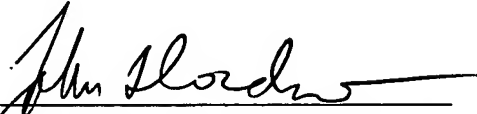


This preliminary amendment is being filed before a first Office action on the merits. Early and favorable action hereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
John L. Cordani, Reg. No. 37,297
Carmody & Torrance LLP
50 Leavenworth Street
P.O. Box 1110
Waterbury, CT 06721-1110
Telephone: (203) 578-4271
Facsimile: (203) 575-2600